ether had partly evaporated, the alcohol became turbid. A tincture of the plant was not immediately affected by adding water, but on standing over night it became very turbid, and in a few days deposited a large precipitate. The bitterness, which is probably of the extractive kind, was communicated to cold, as well as hot water; and to alcohol. The aqueous solutions appear strong enough to represent the virtues of this vegetable.

The Polygala rubella, from its extreme bitterness, has attracted the notice of various medical practitioners in the Northern states. I have been assured by those who have tried its efficacy, that the infusion administered in small doses, proves a useful tonic and stimulant to the digestive organs. In large doses it opens the body and excites diaphoresis. Its powers appear to resemble those of Polygala vulgaris and P. amara of Europe, to which it has a close botanical resemblance; and which have enjoyed a certain degree of medicinal reputation as tonics and expectorants.

BOTANICAL REFERENCES.

Polygala rubella, Muhlenberg, *Catal.*—Willd. iii. 875.—Pursh, ii. 464.—Polygala polygama ?—Nuttall, *genera*, ii. 87.

PLATE LIV.

Fig. 1. *Polygala rubella.*
Fig. 2. *A flower.*
Fig. 3. *Calyx.*
Fig. 4. *Corolla magnified.*
Fig. 5. *Fruit of ditto.*
Fig. 6. *Body of stamens.*
Fig. 7. *Pistil.*